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AT one o'clock on Monday
afternoon an agreement
was signed between Israel
and Jordan providing for the
resumption of local com-
mander meetings along the
armistice lines in order to
prevent infiltration.

A SHORT-
LIVED
PACT
It differed in two impor-
tant respects from the
previous agreement which came
to an end six months ago. It
made no provision for the re-
turn of property stolen by
marauders and it did not for-
bid the opening of fire on
persons crossing the borders.

The obvious purpose behind
these omissions was to pro-
duce a text which would be
practicable and which would
not involve squabbles over
rules which in the past have
proven to be quite ineffectual.

The other provisions were, in
brief, the delegation of author-
ity to local commanders on both
sides to implement measures to
prevent illegal crossings of the
border; the return of illegal
entrants to stand trial in their
respective countries providing
that where they should have
violated the law in either country
they should serve the sentence
imposed by the courts before
being returned. It also provides
that members of either army
who cross the border inadver-
tently will be returned within
five days; that both sides will
fight infiltration and exchange
necessary information to that
end and that neither armed force
nor civilians of either side
will indulge in aggressive acts.

The agreement seems to have
been undertaken with more than
the usual amount of goodwill
as immediately on its signing
meetings between local com-
manders took place and some
complaints were gone into. It
is therefore more than a
tragic tale that less than 12
hours after the signature of the
pact, almost before the ink was
dry on the paper, there should
have been a very ugly marauding
incident at Tlat Yehuda.

An armed band broke into the set-
tlement, threw grenades into a
house, opened fire on its in-
habitants and killed a man. They
also damaged a neighbouring
house with explosives.

Some pertinent questions spring
to mind immediately. Where did
the infiltrators obtain the mate-
rials in question? What was the
purpose of the attack? It was
obviously not designed for loot
but as a continuation of the re-
cent series of incidents which
by now have taken on all the
appearance of a systematically
organized and carefully planned
campaign. Are we to suppose
that the Arab Legion was com-
pletely critical in its actions of a
few hours previously? The an-
swer may lie in another direc-
tion entirely. It is known, of
course, that the police of the
Jordan National Guard. This
body is recruited from Palestin-
ians and one is driven to the
belief that the politicians at Am-
man are quite prepared to allow
these National Guards to indulge
in looting and murder as a kind
of safety valve to divert the at-
tention of Palestinian Arabs
from the pressing demands they
make on the Jordan government
and the neglect of their special
problems. If this be so then
there are two courses open. Is-
rael will have to formulate a
different kind of policy with re-
gard to infiltration—for the pa-
tience of the country is rapidly
searing its limit, or the Jordan
authorities will have to de-
legate immediately to the Arab
Legion full responsibility for all
those carrying arms, regular and
irregular, in the country.

The state of anarchy which
exists at the moment may be
acceptable to Jordanians. It
cannot be allowed indefinitely
to exact a toll of Israel lives
and property. If a government
is sincerely determined to main-
tain law and order within its
boundaries, it will always com-
mand the full support of its
citizens to whom these desecra-
tions in the long run, are the
only means by which a full life
is possible. Israel had no hesi-
tation on Monday in outlawing
for example, the underground
terrorist organization which
had shown its own special form
of contempt for the law. It is
certain that, unless there is an
immediate improvement from
the Jordan side of the border,
the Israel Government will be
equally resolute in dealing with
a situation which is rapidly be-
coming impossible.

PENI DELEGATE TO
LOCAL GOVT CONGRESS
TEL AVIV, Tuesday. — Deputy
Mayor Eliezer Peri is to rep-
resent the Municipality at the
five-day International Congress
of Local Government Authorities
which will open in Vienna on
June 18. Peri, who is also
Director-General of Amidei, the
National Housing Company, is
to leave on Thursday.

British Hand Back Dutch War Criminal

By HENRIETTE BOAS,
POST Correspondent

THE West German Govern-
ment is considering lodging
a protest with the Allied High
Commission against the extra-
dition to Holland of Dutch
war criminal Jacob de Jonge by
the British Occupation Authori-
ties. De Jonge, one of the seven
Dutch war criminals who
escaped from Breda prison across
the German frontier on De-
cember 26, was arrested by the
German police at Leer in North-
west Germany at the beginning
of May. A week later the Ober-
landesgericht at Oldenburg de-
cided to release him. He was
then immediately arrested by
the British Occupation Authori-
ties who conducted him across
the frontier and handed him to
the police in Holland where he
was re-imprisoned.

West German Government
circles consider that the atti-
tude of the Allied High Com-
mission in the present case, in
which they overruled the deci-
sion of a German Court on the
grounds of public order and the
prestige or security of the Al-
lied Military Forces, may con-
stitute a dangerous precedent.
When the new pact with the
West came into force, they
argue, the Allies may, by a
bad interpretation, intervene
arbitrarily in Germany's internal
affairs.

The West German lawyer who
defended de Jonge at the Olden-
burg Court has asked the Pre-
mier of Lower Saxony to take
measures against the Lower
Saxonian officials who cooperated
with the British in expelling
de Jonge.

Municipal Elections
The municipal elections which
were held in nearly 1,000 towns
and villages in Holland on May
27 at the end of the four year
term of the outgoing councils
turned out to be a very tame
and unemotional affair on the
whole. But for posters on
hoardings and in the windows
of staunch partisans, most
streets the day before the elec-
tions offered a spectacle no dif-
ferent from that on any other
day of the year. We were of-
fered no handbills; and paper
consumption was most meagre.

An opinion poll, conducted by
one of the large dailies (non-
party), revealed that 52% of
those questioned stated that
they were not interested in the
elections, and 29% were only
slightly interested. At the few
election meetings held, speakers
addressed almost empty halls.
Yet voting was almost uni-

versal, partly no doubt because
persons on the voting register
who fail to present themselves
at their polling station are
liable to a fine. Since 1946, the
voting age is from 23 years
upward, and out of a total popu-
lation of ten million, the
number of voters was some 5.7
million.

Though in a municipal elec-
tion local issues and personalities
play their part, the division
of the electorate is tending
to develop more and more along
national party lines; among
other reasons because the munici-
palities are increasingly sub-
ject to the authority of the
central government. In only one
of the four main cities did any
small party manage to get a
single seat; all others went to
the six main parties (Labour,
Liberal-Conservative, Commu-
nists, Catholic People's Party and
the two Protestant parties;
Christian Democrats and Anti-
Revolutionaries).

The overall results were not
very different from those of
the elections for the Second
Chamber last July. Whatever
divergencies there were proved
to be far less pronounced than
those between the national elec-
tions and the municipal elections
of 1949. On the whole, there is
little widespread dissatisfaction
in Holland; people usually vote
for the party they voted for in
the past.

Yet certain trends can be
distinguished. Labour (the
Partij van de Arbeid) has again
scored slightly over the reli-
gious parties and particularly
over the Communists. The Com-
munist have lost ground nearly
everywhere, though far less than
was expected. In Amsterdam,
where hitherto they held 12 of
the 45 seats, from now on they
will control ten, which means
that some 103,500 people in
Amsterdam voted Communist.
In most other places, the per-
centage is far smaller.

The great appeal of the Ar-
chipel of Utrecht the previous Sun-
day to maintain Catholic political
solidarity, the use of the
monumental cathedral for the
elections did not remain un-
noticed. Last year, when the Catho-
lic People's Party lost ground
to the right-wing Catholic Na-
tional Party (N.P.), less pro-
nounced, though still notice-
able. Particularly in the solidly
Catholic south, where the
local Catholic dissident splinter
groups.

The Liberal Conservatives (V.V.D.)
continued the upward tendency
which this party has shown
since 1946. In the Municipal
Council of Amsterdam, for instance,
they held two of the 45 seats,
in 1949, four, and now they will
have five.

TEL AVIV AND HAIFA ART NOTES
Three One-Man Shows

ISAAC Amital who has not
held a one-man show for
some considerable time is now
exhibiting about 70 paintings at
the Artists' Pavilion. The entire
premises have been turned over
to this exhibition with the re-
sult that in order to fill the
space a good many works have
been included which could pro-
bably have been left out. The
exhibition was designed primarily
for collective shows and it is
difficult for a sole exhibitor to
fare well there.

Amital's work, whether in
gouache or oil, seems to be at
an experimental stage. Various
techniques and approaches to
subject have been employed and
he does not seem too happy in
any of them. In some works the
emphasis is on pattern, in others
on movement and emotion and in
others there is a striving for na-
turalistic depiction of the scene.
In some of the latest works such
as "Oriental Picnic" and "On
the Way to Safad" he uses a
mosaic-like method of paint-
ing in which he achieves
some interesting effects and ap-
pealing colour harmonies. A few
individual pictures are worth
noting: "The Blue House," a
street scene in gouache, attrac-
tive both in colour and design,
"Listening to the Radio" — an
interior in oils, sombre in colour

and with a well balanced semi-
geometric pattern, conveying a
feeling of intense concentration;
study of an accordion player
(oil) with its clever use of light
and shade and well posed figure.
Amital would have done him-
self better service if he had re-
fused so large a show and had
limited the works exhibited
through careful selection.

At the Artists' Pavilion, Ber-
nard who came here from Ru-
mania about three years ago is
showing a number of oil paint-
ings, nearly all of them street
scenes. Mr. Bernhard, a tech-
nically accomplished painter,
sees the world in dramatic con-
trasts of midnight blues, blacks,
mauves and grey and most of
the works are reminiscent of
stage settings for "thriller"
Theatricality of his method
such as a painting as "Circus"
where under the domed
roof of a tent the clowns
and their acrobatics go through
their antics.

Abroad
Twenty-three-year-old Yoram
Kamran, son of the Tel Aviv
Municipality, recently held a suc-
cessful one-man show at the
Artists' Pavilion. His "New
Times" and "Art News" de-
scribed it as a "very good first
show" and the "Digest"
reviewer paid tribute to his crea-
tion of "a powerful interweaving of
relationships."

MUSICAL DIARY
Music to My Eyes
We have received sheets of a
highly welcome new book to be
published next week: "Alon
Schmuckler and Yitzhak Sh-
agal, whose indefatigable cham-
pionship of Yiddish culture and
art, are the authors of "Hidon
Musical," published by Masada.
This young people's guide to
musical appreciation, though
decidedly instructive, is a di-
vertimento, i.e. without any dry
pedantry.

Comprising 144 pages the book
has three sections: the first con-
tains 25 series of ten questions
each, classified according to dif-
ferent branches of music, e.g.
opera, ballet, instruments, ac-
oustics, music in Israel etc.
The second section: "A Guide
for the production of Musical
Quizzes" presents many possi-
bilities and varieties of arranging
a musical quiz at home or in
the dining hall of a kibbutz with
the help of records, piano, accor-
dion or a guitar. The last section
gives the solutions.

What makes this book so un-
commonly attractive are the
pen-and-ink drawings by that
gifted young artist Yoram Kam-
ran; they have a leitmotif: a little
boy on his musical odyssey.

In this connection we may men-
tion a Jewish publication "Music to
My Eyes" by Alfred Bandier (Editor,
City of Pennsylvania Press, Phila-
delphia), consisting of caricatures
that were originally drawn to ac-
company music reviews in the "Phila-
delphia Evening Bulletin." They
are of special interest because
of the "top grooves of the musical
world" — from a round dance, to
concertos in "Jazz" and "Blues".

PERI DELEGATE TO
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to leave on Thursday.

HANDSHAKE ACROSS THE BORDER



An Israeli officer shakes hands with Major Mohammed Isahak, acting leader of the Jordanian Arab Legion, at the border. The two men are standing in front of a fence, and the Israeli officer is wearing a military uniform. The Jordanian officer is wearing a civilian suit. They are both smiling and shaking hands.

Readers' Letters

RENT SCALE AND LANDLORDS

To the Editor of The POST
Sir — In his letter of May 18,
Mr. Kupferschmidt tries to cor-
rect a few points in your well
and objectively written leader
of May 4, "The Landlords and
the Law," but with very little
success.

"Keeping rents below their
economic level is identical with
capital consumption," he writes.
What is the economic level?
Has it been scientifically deter-
mined or ascertained? And if
not, what are the conclusions
to be drawn from it? And which
capital is getting consumptive,
that invested by the landlord
or the mortgages, which are
paid back with inflated money?
Redeeming the mortgage in that
way, the landlords cannot deny
that they are doing an excel-
lent business, since the actual
value of the houses has kept
pace with the change in the
value of the money.

Another very important point,
not mentioned in your leader
or by Mr. K. is key-money. Re-
liable statistics of the key-
money received by landlords
would produce surprising re-
sults.

That an empty plot is worth
several times the price of a similar
one "burdened" with a house is
an exaggeration: it is certainly not
a general rule.

"Cheap rents only allow people to
spend more on clothing, entertain-
ment, etc., than on housing."
This assertion is really provocative.
What tenants has Mr. K. in mind?
Employed, civil servants or labour-
ers? Can they really afford not
to spend on clothing, entertain-
ment, etc., than on housing?

Dealing with the rent prob-
lem it should not be forgotten,
that in normal times there is
no key money to participate in,
and that many flats remain
unrented for longer periods.

The landlords had better fight
the new rent draft legislation
for other reasons than those
mentioned by Mr. K. Certain
landlords will be discriminated
against because of the rent
scale. Landlords owning houses
with small flats will get lower
rents per room than those with
big flats. The other way round
would be more logical, because
the construction of a smaller
flat costs relatively much more
than that of big ones.

The same applies to tenants.
Big families with children and
other relations occupying of ne-
cessity bigger flats will pay
more per room than single per-
sons or childless couples living
in flats of one room and two
rooms respectively. Why should
bigger families be discriminated
against?

If there must be a rent scale,
there should be only one de-
pending on the rooms sublet. If
people keep big flats in order
to sublet at exorbitant rents,
there is no reason why in such
cases the landlords should not
get higher rents. If landlords
fight for higher rents for sublet
flats, they will certainly not be
"singled out".
Yours etc.,
B. KOENNER

ROSENBERG CASE
To the Editor of The POST
Sir — If the argument of
mercy is not sufficient to bring
about the conversion of the
death penalty into a prison
term, maybe another would be
more valid: — No better
propaganda material could be
handed to the Stalinists than
the carrying out of the execu-
tion after months of cruel wait-
ing. Such an action on the part
of the U.S. Government would
help the Stalinists to cover up
their own cruelty and injustice
against millions of innocent
people behind the Iron Curtain.
No greater blow could be struck
for justice and democracy than
by an act of clemency changing
the death penalty into a prison
term. Many people like myself,
who have no sympathy for the
Rosenbergs, would still feel that
in this case an act of mercy
would be an act of wisdom too.
Yours etc.,
A. DAVIDSON

HITACHUT OLEI AMERICA (AND CANADA)
9 Rehov Shalom-Hamaik (Princess Mary Avenue)
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INVITATION

LECTURE (in English) by
PROFESSOR MORDECAI M. KAPLAN
Professor of Philosophy of Religion at the
Jewish Theological Seminary of America
on: "THE CRISIS IN JUDAISM"
at BETH SHALOM, Rehov Achad Ha'am, Tel-Aviv
on Wednesday, June 10, at 8 p.m. sharp.
Bring your friends and please be prompt! Refreshments.

TODAY....
is the last day to change your old
ticket for a new one with the same
number for the third drawing of
MIFAL HAPAYIS 1953/4
BE QUICK AND CHANGE YOUR TICKET
OR SOMEONE ELSE WILL GET YOUR NUMBER

THEATRE NOTES

Matate and the Obvious

Matate presents "Crime", Hal-
lowed to 12 seats by St. AMR.
Directed by Walter Back.
THE other night, at the opening
of the new Matate show
"Crime... Hello-999," a group
of energetic young men pushed
forward as the lights were dimmed,
and made a grab for some of
the better seats. In the process
smashing a few of the new
rickety folding chairs in the
Bet Ha'am. The people with the
best seats were the same
seats were trying to compete
with the more robust customers
who lectured them: "Don't you
know that it is a tradition at
the Matate that when the lights
go down anyone can take any
unoccupied seat that he finds?"

In the 25 years of their exist-
ence the Matate has created
many traditions, which very
often have served them in lieu
of progress. They have had a
quarter of a century of uninter-
rupted production, with, on the
whole, very little to show in the
way of advance. It is really re-

markable that a company can
mark time for such a long pe-
riod. Logic would suggest that
they should either have made
strides forward or packed up.
But this is not the case. It is a
popular theatrical company, play-
ing to an audience which does
not care for finesse or subtleties.
The Matate caters to the Peo-
ple, and it seems that they have
little use for hints or hidden
meanings.

Heavy Satire
The present production by H.
Abir, is very much in line with
the tradition that the fun must
be obvious — only more so. This
is a satire on the state of crime
and less serious deflections in
Israel. There are a few very
funny scenes, notably the one in
the "Department of Rejection" at
Hakiryat. This is the depart-
ment which turns people down
when all other departments have
done their worst. A man has
been trying for six months to
get a permit for some useless
business, and finally he feels
he has overcome every obstacle.
He comes armed with a dog
licence, a series of X-rays of
his photogenic insides, a certi-
ficate in Greek, and his wife's
curriculum vitae, but even so
he is refused. There are scenes
of a certain crudity, such as
the ambitious lady who is a
personal case of rape on the po-
lice blotter. There is a very
amusing piece about a bus driver
who brings a whole bus load of
some 80 people to the police sta-
tion because one of the custom-
ers called him "hamor" (ass).
These scenes were in the best
of the Matate tradition and met
with the whole-hearted approval
of the regulars. What was not in
the established Matate tradition
was the unnecessary amount of
padding put in to hold the skits
together. The only purpose this
served was to slow up the action
and interfere with the fun. If we
must be conservative, by all
means let us be so as not to in-
troduce new-fangled innovations,
especially when they make the
Matate take several steps in the
wrong direction.

Walter Back, who directed the
performance, played several of the
leading roles. Mr. Back is a typical
reel actor, who does very well in
some scenes, but his sense of a
trifle is somewhat lacking. He is
a blood bank, instead of the
monetary kind. Incidentally this
kind of actor is very rare in the
theatrical world. He is a blood
bank, instead of the monetary
kind. Incidentally this kind of
actor is very rare in the theatrical
world. He is a blood bank, in-
stead of the monetary kind. In-
cidentally this kind of actor is
very rare in the theatrical world.

Yours etc.,
SEVENTEEN MONTHS
Jaffa, June 5

LONG WAIT
To the Editor of The POST
Sir — I should like to bring
the following facts about the
Shikun Memshali 3, Acre, to the
attention of the competent au-
thorities.

It is three years since our
shikun was completed, and we
are still without electricity which
was promised us time and again.
We realize that one has to wait
for certain public utilities but for
how long?

Until recently we had an abun-
dant supply of water. A few
weeks ago it was announced that
water would be cut off several
hours a day for a few days for
repairs. The repairs were com-
pleted and now we have less wa-
ter than ever before. People who
live on the second floor are al-
ways in difficulty. The Munici-
pality has now decided to raise
water rates by 50 per cent.

The Eshel bus stop is situated
about 100 metres from the near-
est house. During the winter we
stand in the pouring rain and
during the summer under the
burning sun waiting for the bus.
Eshel promised a small bus
months ago. How much longer
will we have to wait for a mod-
est corrugated iron hut?
Yours etc.,
S. LINBIG

Acre, May 7.
POINTS FROM LETTERS
SOIL CONSERVATION — The soil
conservation terraces one sees on
the way to Jerusalem look al-
most not only aesthetically but
they seem to defeat the purpose
for which they were built. We have
a very capable soil conservation
expert in the country who don't
we seek his advice?
Jerusalem

YORLA NOYI
SUGGESTION — Spending a short
time in my native country, Holland,
I found in my hotel room a copy
of the Holy Bible in Dutch and
English. I propose that the Min-
istry of Religion Affairs put a
copy of the Old Testament in Heb-
rew and English at the bedside in
every hotel room in Israel.
Amsterdam

M.J. PERATH, M.D.

Men and Things

ALTHOUGH a simplified res-
piratory apparatus has en-
abled modern man to stay long-
er under water to examine the
wonders of the deep than any
other fish-like creature of old—both
like one of Keats's incidental
harem, going "all naked to the
hungry shark" — yet every day
shows that modern man is a
short-breathed creature.

He cannot stay under any
water for long, but must come
up, burning for air, whether he
has been immersed in country
delights, the office, the theatre
or the concert hall. There might
be something to be said for his
diffidence in the quest for know-
ledge, when so many facts are
served up to him ready-made
that it is not worth his while
to spend years in the elucidation
of a single point; but when his
desire for change and variety
prevents him even considering
works of musical or dramatic
art of extended length, then
something is wrong with him.

For though he does not yet
quite approve of that new phe-
nomenon, the comic strip
Shakespeare (or Bible or Fall of
the Roman Empire), for that mat-
ter, we find him listening to
cut versions of novels and plays
on the radio, and even paying
to see cut plays on the living
stage. Thus, Marlowe's two
parts of Tamburlaine, each of
which is a separate play with
its distinctive theme, were given
in one chunk at the Old Vic;
Shakespeare's Henry VI, which
is three plays, was also pared
down to a bald semblance of a
single play; Strindberg's
"Dance of Death," a double five-
acter, was reduced to a two-
hours' gable by the B.B.C.
Drama Department; and now
Ibsen's "Emperor and Galilean,"
a work of similar magnitude, is
to be similarly condensed for
the delectation of an ignorant
but hurried public. Sooner or
later, as we say, "In the begin-
ning... (Genesis)... I will come
and smite the earth." (end of
Malachi) will boast of having
memorized the Bible.

B.S.

JUNE ISSUE
INDIA
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